

# The Pastor's Column - August 10th, 2023



## When in Lake George...

Should your summer travel take you to Lake George, New York in the Adirondacks, make sure you come by the Paulist Fathers Summer Home, St. Mary's of the Lake. You can take a one-hour boat tour on the Famous Minne-Ha-Ha Steamboat. The boat comes by our house about 7 or 8 times a day, and we are part of the tour. If you're lucky, as you pass by, we will ring a bell to greet you or if we are lakeside, we will wave. Better yet, our chapel is always open. Join us for Mass every day except Saturday. Fr. Frank Desiderio, who served as the administrator at St. Pauls in 2019, is the director of St. Mary's. He looks forward to rolling out the welcoming visitors from our parish.

The Paulists have been coming to Lake George since the late 1860s. In 1872, we were given the property we camped on which was owned by Judge Charles Sloan

O'Connor and his wife Cornelia. Cornelia hated coming to Lake George, and Judge O'Connor, wanting to run for President of the United States in 1872, decided it was time to let the place go. Knowing that Fr. Hecker and his small band of brother Paulists loved their summer respite there, they gave their house and property to the Paulists. As it turned out, the judge was not nominated by the Democrats, and Republican incumbent Ulysses Grant won in a landslide over Horace Greeley. However, the O'Connors got the tax write-off; and better, the judge probably preserved his marriage to Cornelia.

Today, Paulists from around the country come for part or all of their summer vacation. Our seminarians also spend the first two weeks in August there. I made my annual pilgrimage last weekend. It was great to visit with my Paulist brothers and take a few days to reflect on the opportunities that lie before us as a parish community. I realize I haven't accrued enough vacation days yet, so forgive me!

Lake George is one hour north of Albany. We are located on Route 9L on the east side of the Lake. From Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend, the Mass schedule is: Sunday 8am and 10am, and Monday-Friday at 11:30am. If you are providentially in the area, there will be a special reception this Sunday, August 13th following the 10am Mass to celebrate St. Mary's Feast Day, The Assumption.

It's a lovely spot rich in natural beauty and American history. We Paulists would love to share this treasure with you!

God Bless,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Eric".

Rev. Fr. Eric Andrews, CSP  
*Pastor, Church of St. Paul the Apostle (NYC)*